



Agricultural Report

Connecticut Department of Agriculture

Dannel P. Malloy, Governor; Steven K. Reviczky, Commissioner
Robert R. Pellegrino, Bureau Director



Marketing & Technology Bureau, (860) 713-2503

Linda Piotrowicz, Interim Editor
Wednesday, May 16, 2012

NOTES from the DEPARTMENT

CT FARMING, GRANTS, AND OTHER MATTERS

By Ron Olsen, Marketing Representative

The Connecticut spring season started a month early with above-average temperatures, and many growers thought that maybe, just maybe, they could get a head start on the season and begin their planning and planting earlier than normal.

As is always the case in this finicky climate, the optimism did not last. The nights became much colder, and, predictably, we had several hard frosts that caused more than a few problems, especially among the orchard and small fruit growers. In addition, there was a significant period of zero precipitation over several weeks and the dreaded D-word (drought) started to form on the weathermen's lips. This too ended, with three-plus inches of rain over much of the state in late April, but not before putting another scare into the farming community.

Fortunately, Connecticut farmers are a hardy and optimistic group and are used to dealing with the many pitfalls that come their way. They survive, they thrive, and are there for us come harvest time. The same will happen this year as our farms produce all the crops that we so look forward to over the course of the year.

Many of us tend to forget that while a farm may offer aesthetic pleasure to passers-by and a bounty of food products to consumers, it is not a hobby. It is a business to those producers regardless of farm size, with expenses, payroll, labor costs, equipment to maintain, seasonal timelines to manage, neighbors to contend with, and—always—the weather issues.

"Nine to five" may mean a normal workday to most, but to a farmer it could merely mean "9-2-5," a custom fertilizer blend. Even so, most farmers actually enjoy what they do, which is a somewhat novel concept in today's workplace.

With this good news/bad news dynamic typical in farming, your Connecticut Department of Agriculture has optimistic news to share. We have grants available to farmers and municipalities to meet our goal of being farm friendly—not only verbally, but also by putting our money where our mouth is, making dollars available to those looking to expand and improve their farm businesses.

Farm Transition Grants recently were awarded to 16 agricultural producers, and Agriculture Viability Grants were awarded to 13 non-profit agricultural organizations and seven municipalities throughout the state. Matching grants are made for diversification of existing farm operations, transitioning to value-added agricultural production and sales, and developing farmers' markets and other venues in which a majority of products sold are grown in the state. These applications are due the second Friday in November. Visit www.ct.gov/doag or call Ron Olsen, 860-713-2503, for more info.

A new grant program called the Farmland Restoration Program, administered by our Farmland Preservation office, is available for reclamation of overgrown pastures; clearing and removing of stumps, trees and stones; fencing; renovation of farm ponds; and more. Contact Lance Shannon at 860-713-2511 for information.

Remember that our United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) partners have available to producers a multitude of grant and loan assistance programs through their Farm Service Agency (FSA), Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), and Rural Development offices. Contact your county office to learn more.

Energy-efficiency programs are also offered through a number of the above offices. Look at a compilation of energy programs available at the Connecticut Farm Energy Program at www.ctfarmenergy.org or by contacting program coordinator Amanda Fargo-Johnson at 860-345-3977.

Farmers should always be in search of new markets for their products. There are more than 120 certified farmers' markets throughout the state, many of which will be looking for new farmers to vend at them. Contact Rick Macsuga or Mark Zotti at 860-713-2503.

Additional prospects for sales to restaurants, schools and other institutions may exist. We are here to help you, the farm producer, and to promote Connecticut farms and farm products to the consumer. We hope that you take advantage of us and the opportunities we provide. Visit the Department of Agriculture's website, www.CTGrown.gov (click on Programs and Services), or contact the Marketing Division at 860-713-2503 for more information.



WHOLESALE LETTUCE SHIPPED IN

	Low	High
BOSTON,24,NJ	14.00	15.00
ICEBERG,24,CA	18.00	21.00
LEAF,Gr,24,NJ	16.00	16.00
LEAF,Rd,24,NJ	16.00	16.00
LOLLA ROSSA,2.5lb crtn	10.00	12.00
MESCLUN,3lb,CA	5.50	8.00
OAK LF,Gr,2.2lb crtn,CA	10.00	12.00
OAK LF,Rd,2.2lb crtn,CA	10.00	12.00
ROMAINE,24,CA	16.00	18.00
ROMAINE,24,NJ	14.00	15.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA, HOG AUCTION

May 14, 2012

Hogs sold by actual weights, prices quoted by hundred weight.

49-54	220-270 lbs	59.00-61.00
	270-300 lbs	59.00-62.00
	300-400lbs	63.00-66.50
Sows: US 1-3	300-500 lbs	45.00-49.00
	500-700 lbs	48.00-52.50
45-49	220-270lbs	n/a
Boars:	300-700 lbs	27.00-28.00

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, May 14, 2012

Live animals brought the following ave. prices per cwt.

	Low	High
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	50.00	65.00
61-75 lbs.	82.00	140.00
76-90 lbs.	150.00	170.00
91-105 lbs.	175.00	180.00
106 lbs. & up	182.00	185.00
Farm Calves	195.00	200.00
Starter Calves	65.00	72.00
Veal Calves	85.00	125.00
Open Heifers	100.00	125.00
Beef Heifers	70.00	90.00
Beef Steers	96.00	109.00
Feeder Steers	112.50	127.50
Stock Bulls	97.00	105.00
Beef Bulls	87.00	104.00
Boars	One at	50.00
Sows	n/a	n/a
Butcher Hogs	one at	105.00
Goats each	55.00	155.00
Kid Goats	25.00	95.00
Canners	Up to	77.50
Cutters	78.00	81.00
Utility Grade Cows	82.00	88.00
Rabbits each	5.00	20.00
Chickens each	3.00	20.00
Ducks each	12.00	24.00
Feeder Pigs	n/a	n/a
Lambs	105.00	275.00
Sheep	80.00	140.00



WHOLESALE VEGETABLES NEW ENGLAND GROWN

	Low	High
APPLE,Mac,100ct,fcy	19.00	19.00
CHIVES,12s	8.00	10.00
CIDER,9-1/2gal	18.00	18.00
FIDDLEHEAD,10lb	50.00	50.00
LETTUCE,Bstn,12/4oz	14.00	16.00
POTATO,10lb	3.00	3.00
RHUBARB 20lb	32.00	32.00
TOMATO,Chrry,5lb flat	14.00	14.00
TOMATO,Grnhs,25lb,lg	14.00	16.00

SHIPPED IN

	Low	High
ARUGULA,4/5bu,NJ	14.00	15.00
ASPARAGUS,28lb,lg,CN	64.00	64.00
BEANS,Grn,bu,FL	17.00	18.00
BEETS,12s,NJ	13.00	14.00
BLUEBERRY12/1pt,GA	34.00	36.00
CH CABBAGE 1.3bu,NJ	14.00	15.00
CHERRIES,10rw,CA	85.00	95.00
CILANTRO,24,NJ	14.00	15.00
COLLARD,12-16s,NJ	12.00	12.00
DANDELION GRN,bu,NJ	14.00	15.00
DILL,24,NJ	15.00	18.00
ESCAROLE,1-1/9bu,NJ	12.00	14.00
KALE,24s,SC	12.00	12.00
LEEKS,12s,NJ	14.00	17.00
NECTARINES 2lyr,CA	38.00	38.00
ONION,Vdlia,40lb,GA	20.00	20.00
PEACHES,1/2bu,2-1/2,GA	26.00	28.00
PEAS,Snp,10lb,gu	21.00	22.00
PEPPER,Grn,1-1/9,lg,FL	15.00	18.00
SPINACH,24,NJ	15.00	16.00
SWISS CHARD,Rd,NJ	14.00	18.00

(Boston Terminal and wholesale grower prices)

NEW HOLLAND LIVESTOCK AUCTION

May 14, 2012

Bulk/ High/ Low Dressing

SLAUGHTER COWS:

Breakers 75-80%lean		
90.00-94.00	94.50-97.00	82.00-84.00
Boners 80-85% lean		
84.00-89.00	91.00-93.00	n/a
Lean 88-90% lean		
78.00-83.00	84.00-88.00	70.00-76.00

CALVES: All prices per cwt.

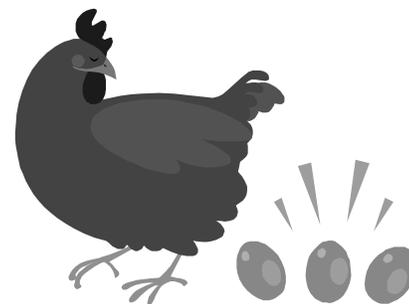
Graded Bull Calves: Number 1		
80-125lbs	230.00-250.00	
80-90lbs n/a		
Number 2	80-120lbs	200.00-225.00
Number 3	80-125lbs	130.00-170.00

Holstein Heifers: Number 1

80-105 lbs	200.00-260.00
Slaughter Bulls-940-1920lbs	98.00-105.00

SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Non-Traditional Markets:

Woolled & Shorn Choice and Prime 2-3	
40-60lbs	178.00-202.00
60-80lbs	166.00-190.00
80-90lbs	174.00-190.00
90-110lbs	170.00-189.00



WEEKLY NEW ENGLAND SHELL EGGS

Prices paid per dozen. Grade A brown egg in carton delivered store door. (Range)

XTRA LARGE	123-133
LARGE	112-122
MEDIUM	98-108

NORTHEAST EGG PRICES USDA

May 14, 2012

Prices to retailers, sales to volume buyers, USDA Grade A and Grade A, white eggs in cartons, warehouse, centers per dozen. (Range)

EXTRA LARGE	83-87
LARGE	81-85
MEDIUM	75-79

PENNSYLVANIA GRAIN REPORT

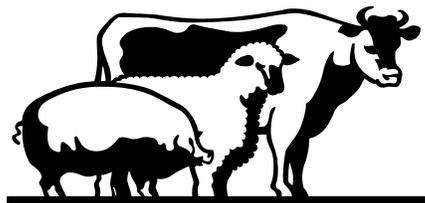
May 14, 2012

Grain market for eastern Pennsylvania.

Corn, No.2, bu.	6.25-6.83
Ear Corn, ton	185-190
Soybeans, No.2, bu.	13.31-13.96



110-130lbs n/a	
150-200lbs	124.00-143.00
Woolled & Shorn Choice 2-3	
50-60lbs	200.00-240.00
60-80lbs	195.00-230.00
80-90lbs	204.00-218.00
90-110lbs	196.00-212.00
SLAUGHTER EWES: Good 2-3: Med. Flesh	
120-160lbs	76.00-94.00
160-200lbs	74.00-90.00
200-300lbs	69.00-80.00
Utility 1-2: Thin Flesh	
120-160lbs	80.00-95.00
160-200lbs	72.00-86.00
SLAUGHTER GOATS: All goats are Selection 1, sold by the head, on est. weights.	
30-40lbs	100.00-112.00
40-60lbs	118.00-161.00
60-80lbs	160.00-174.00
80-100lbs	181.00-202.00
110-130lbs n/a	
Nannies/Does: 80-130 lbs	165.00-181.00
130-180lbs	180.00-200.00
Bucks/Billies: 100-150lbs	231.00-246.00
150-250lbs	245.00-264.00



ADVERTISEMENTS

FOR SALE

1-R. Blumenthal & Donahue is now Connecticut's first independent NATIONWIDE Agri-Business Insurance Agency. Christmas tree growers, beekeepers, sheepbreeders, organic farmers and all others, call us for all your insurance needs. 800-554-8049 or www.bludon.com

2-R. Farm, homeowner and commercial insurance—we do it all. Call Blumenthal & Donahue 800-554-8049 or www.bludon.com

4-R. Gallagher electric fencing for farms, horses, deer control, gardens, & beehives. Sonpal's Power Fence 860-491-2290.

6-R. Packaging for egg sales. New egg cartons, flats, egg cases, 30 doz and 15 doz. Polinsky Farm 860-376-2227.

9-R. Rough sawn lumber, fence boards, trailer planks, tomato stakes, custom and portable sawing 203-788-2430.

10-R. Nationwide Agribusiness Insurance Program, endorsed by the CT Farm Bureau, save up to 23% on your farm insurance and get better protection. References available from satisfied farmers. Call Marci today at 203-444-6553.

60-R. Liability coverage for sale of raw milk—call Blumenthal & Donahue for a no obligation quote. 800-554-8049.

63-R. Sawdust, landscape materials, compost. 860-642-7084. blueslopesawdust@hotmail.com

68-R. Vicon fertilizer sower. Model # 2219. Very Good. J.D. Model L.A. tractor. Completely restored. Call 860-871-0171. Cell 860-559-5031.

70-R. Apple, pepper, tomato sizer, washer, brusher machine. \$3,000.00 negotiable or trade hay equipment. Peter. 203-733-9706.

72-R. Reg. Hereford Bull for Sale., great pedigree, halter broke. Asking \$2250 Call Herb 860-250-3311.

74-R. Three Angus, one Holstein heifer, two with calf at side, two springing. \$5,000. 860-355-2962.

78-R. Tobacco Poles, Used. \$10 each. 12 ft long, good condition: 860-683-0266

80-R. New Holland Model 474 7ft Haybine, \$3,500. 860-649-7252
81-R. JD 450B Bulldozer \$5,000. JD 6310 4x4 640 loader \$26,000.

6405 2WD with loader \$26,000. JD 850 2WD with loader \$4,500. IH 986 2WD \$8,500. JD B-530-730 Tractors. NH 575 Baler with thrower \$11,000. CASE IH SBX 520 Baler, same. 95 NH 565 \$7,500. NH 256, 258 Rakes JD 660 Rake. New Pequae 11 ft rotary rake \$6,500. New 17 ft Morra hydraulic fold tetter, IH 710 4 bottom reset plow, 2-720 4 bottom reset plows. New and used metal kicker wagons. New Holland 492 haybine \$5,000. New Holland tandem axle manure spreader \$8,000. 2-3 pt hitch cultivators, older offset disc, Nice JD 4020 \$7,500. 203-530-4953.

82-R. Sawdust, landscape materials, compost. 860-642-7084. blueslopesawdust@hotmail.com

83-R. Tomato stakes, trailer decks, fence boards, custom cut lumber, Staehly Products Co. LLC, 860-873-9774

84-R. Stackable Black bulb crates 9x24x15, great for vegetables, \$5 each, 50/pallet. 203-395-3070 or stonegds@comcast.net

WANTED

79. Tandem Hay Rake Hitch and New Holland or J.D. Hay Rakes in good condition. 203-623-2956.

MISCELLANEOUS

7-R. Farm/Land Specializing in land, farms, and all types of Real Estate. Established Broker with a lifetime of agricultural experience and 40 years of finance. Representing both Buyers and Sellers. Call Clint Charter of Wallace-Tustin Realty (860) 644-5667.

11-R. Lily's LLC Appraisal Services specializes in Estates, Commercial & Industrial, Residential, Agricultural, Conservation Easements and Reevaluation Appraisals. Call Lori Longhi at 860-463-9997.

85. Pasture Land for rent. 17 acres pasture for summer rental. Fertilized with pasture shelter and automated waterer for cattle or horses. \$500/month. 860-364-5019.

FARMERS ENCOURAGED TO RESPOND TO SURVEY

Dr. Kathleen Liang of the University of Vermont is heading up a survey of producers throughout New England to determine how diversification would change the face of agriculture in the region. Participation is voluntary and takes about 30 minutes. Individual answers will remain confidential, while results will be summarized in a general form to prepare for policy recommendations, research articles, and outreach reports. The results will be used by USDA to help shape the 2012 Farm Bill and shared with other farmer-oriented organizations.

The survey was mailed to 7,600 producers in April. Producers who did not receive a copy but would like to participate should contact Dr. Liang at 802-656-0754 or CLIANG@uvm.edu.

FREE LAND PLANNING SEMINARS FROM AFT

American Farmland Trust's *Planning Your Land's Future: an Introductory Workshop for Landowners* can help you understand your options and make informed choices. Speakers will discuss and answer questions about estate planning and land transfer, land protection options and techniques, land rental and leasing, and production and financial management through crop insurance and other tools.

There are two opportunities to attend:

- Thursday, May 31, 2012, 6:00 to 8:30 p.m., at the Lebanon Fire Safety Complex, Lebanon, CT
- Friday, June 1, 2012, 6:00 to 8:30 p.m., at the Litchfield County Extension Center, Torrington, CT

Both workshop sessions are free and will include a light supper. For more information and to register, please visit www.farmland.org. Space is limited, so be sure sign up by May 25 if you wish to take part. Questions? Contact Leah Mayor, 203-988-3270 or lmayor@farmland.org.

WORKSHOP SERIES FOR BEGINNING FARMERS

Common Ground in New Haven will present workshops this spring and summer for gardeners who are curious about taking their backyard gardens to the next level. Topics are tailored to new, young and immigrant farmers, folks new to Connecticut's growing season, and seasoned gardeners who are looking to upsize their production. Organic and sustainable practices will be emphasized.

- Wednesday, July 11, 5:00-7:00 p.m., Common Pests, Disease and Management Strategies
- Sat Aug 18 10:00 a.m.-12 noon, Planning the Fall and Winter Garden & Fall Seedling Sale

These workshops are held at Common Ground High School in New Haven. They are \$10 each and are discounted for attending two or more. No one will be turned away for lack of funds.

Pre-registration recommended. For more information or to register contact Shannon Raider, 203-389-4333 x(1)217 or sraider@commongroundct.org.

MOBILE POULTRY PROCESSING SURVEY

The Connecticut Poultry Association is seeking input from poultry growers on the potential use of a mobile poultry processing unit for Connecticut. If you are interested in growing and processing your own meat-type chickens or turkeys, please take a moment and fill out the survey at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/CTPoultry>.

The Connecticut Week Agricultural Report offers affordable classified advertisements for your farm-related needs. See Page 4 for details and rates, or call 860-713-2503.

FRUIT GROWER TWILIGHT MEETINGS MAY 16-17

UConn Cooperative Extension has announced that the following Extension Fruit Program twilight meetings will be held in cooperation with Massachusetts and Rhode Island Fruit Growers' Associations:

- Wednesday, May 16, 2012, at Carlson Orchards (www.carlsonorchards.com), 115 Oak Hill Rd., Harvard, MA, 800-286-3916. Hosts are Frank, Bruce, and Robert Carlson.
- Thursday, May 17, 2012, at Noquochoke Orchards (www.nogorchards.com), 594 Drift Rd., Westport, MA, 508-636-2237. Hosts are George and Sue Smith.

Special guest speaker is Win Cowgill, Rutgers Cooperative Extension. Tree fruit twilight meetings start promptly at 5:30 p.m. One pesticide recertification credit will be offered.

There will be a \$25 meeting admission charged at the door. (\$20 for Massachusetts and Rhode Island Fruit Growers' Association full members.). A light meal or snack will be served at all meetings. For more information, call Jon Clements, 413-478-7219.

PASTURE SOIL HEALTH ASSESSMENT TRAINING MAY 23

Soil Health Assessment Training – Pastures I, Professional Development for Service Providers, will be held at Double J Farm, 138 North Main Street, West Brookfield, MA, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. on May 23, 2012. Speakers include Sonia Schloemann, UMass; Dr. Masoud Hashemi, UMass; Michael Keilty, UConn; James Talvey, Double J Farms; and Dr. John Spargo, Director, UMass Soil and Plant Tissue Testing Lab.

A follow-up training, *Pastures II*, will be held in late July and led by Dr. Bianca Moebius-Clune at the same location to show the results of the soil health assessment, explain how the results are interpreted, and what recommendations can be made to improve the poorer of the two soils. Attending both sessions is recommended. RSVP by May 18 for planning purposes by emailing Sonia Schloemann at sgs@umext.umass.edu.

JUNE 6 DEADLINE TO APPLY FOR SBA TROPICAL STORM IRENE LOANS

The U.S. Small Business Administration reminds small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small businesses engaged in aquaculture, and most private non-profit organizations of all sizes that June 6 is the filing deadline for federal economic injury disaster loans available in the state of Connecticut as a result of strong winds, heavy rainfall and severe flooding associated with Tropical Storm Irene on August 28-29, 2011.

Under the declaration, the loan program is available to eligible farm-related and nonfarm-related entities that suffered financial losses as a direct result of this disaster. With the exception of aquaculture enterprises, SBA cannot provide disaster loans to agricultural producers, farmers, or ranchers.

Loans may be used to pay fixed debts, payroll, accounts payable, and other bills that could have been paid had the disaster not occurred, but are not intended to replace lost sales or profits.

Contact SBA's Customer Service Center at 800-659-2955 or disastercustomerservice@sba.gov.



Advertising Rates: Fifteen words or less \$3.75 per insertion. For ads of more than 15 words, 25 cents per word per insertion. Initial letters, hyphenated words, phone numbers, and addresses, etc., are counted separately. Print or type copy. Publication on a specific date cannot be guaranteed. Advertisements will be published on a first-come, first-served basis. Ads must be received by noon the Friday before a publication date to be considered for insertion. Only ads of an agricultural nature with a Connecticut phone number will be accepted. Remittance with copy required. Make check or money order payable to the Connecticut Department of Agriculture.

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Commissioner	Steven K. Reviczky 860-713-2500
Marketing & Technology	Robert Pellegrino 860-713-2503
Regional Market	Robert Pellegrino 860-566-3699
State Veterinarian	Dr. Mary J. Lis 860-713-2505
Regulation & Inspection	Dr. Bruce Sherman 860-713-2504
Farmland Preservation	Joseph Dippel 860-713-2511
Aquaculture	David Carey 203-874-2855
FAX NUMBERS	860-713-2516 860-713-2514

Email: Linda.Piotrowicz@ct.gov
Internet: www.CT.gov/doag

Connecticut Weekly Agricultural Report (ISSN: 1059-8723, USPS 129-340) is published weekly by the Connecticut Department of Agriculture, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106, except for the weeks of Thanksgiving and Christmas, two other weeks each year, and when the Governor closes state offices. Print subscriptions are \$40.00 for two years. Periodicals postage paid at Hartford, CT. **POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to the Connecticut Department of Agriculture, 165 Capitol Ave., Hartford, CT 06106. **Print subscriptions expire on December 31, 2013.**

**VOL. XCII
No. 20
May 16, 2012**